

Oklahoma City, OK
September 10, 2001

Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Room TW-204B
Washington, D.C. 20554

re: RM-10209

Oklahoma County Emergency REACT Team 2620 submits the following in support of the ARRL petition for a 60m amateur band to enhance emergency communications.

Experience in recent years has shown a mounting need for volunteer radio communications to assist authorities in disasters and other major incidents. This proposal would enable amateur radio operators in REACT Teams, nationwide, to serve their communities and the nation more effectively.

It would particularly benefit REACT Teams providing communications in the coastal states and across the Caribbean. The proposed new band would be invaluable to emergency communications in hurricanes and other severe weather incidents that occur in those areas. It would be equally useful in many similar disasters, such as the current wildfire and flood emergencies affecting several states.

We urge the Commissioners to grant the ARRL petition. The proposal will benefit public safety. Approving it will enable properly certificated volunteer amateur radio communicators to better carry out their roles in emergencies. That can translate into lives saved.

Additionally, such approval will benefit governments on all levels through monies saved. REACT and other volunteers provide their own radio equipment. Thus, costly expenditures to purchase and maintain similar essential radio equipment from dollars can be avoided.

The proposed 60m amateur band is a needed radio tool. It will aid REACT Teams and other volunteers in efforts to serve their fellow citizens.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully yours,

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